Suncatcher

Make a decoration using sunlight and learn about transparent and translucent objects!

Kit contains:

- 4 craft sticks
- 1 piece of ribbon
- 1 piece of contact paper
- 1 piece of wax paper
- assorted pieces of tissue paper and cellophane

You will need: glue and scissors.

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INSTRUCTIONS

(1) Make a square frame out of your craft sticks by gluing the ends together. Let the glue dry before going on to the next steps.

(2) Tie the ribbon around the frame to make a loop, which will be the hanger for your suncatcher. You can either have a square or diamond-shaped suncatcher.

(3) Peel the backing off the contact paper and stick it onto the frame. Flip so the sticky side is up.

(4) Cut the tissue paper and cellophane and arrange the pieces in any way you want on the sticky part of the contact paper.

(5) When you're done decorating, put glue on all the craft sticks. Then stick the wax paper square on the frame (it should be on the opposite side of the contact paper).

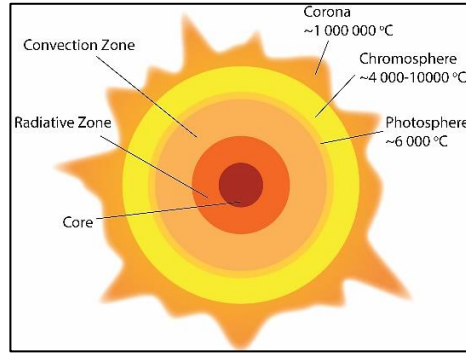
(6) Place your suncatcher in a sunny window and watch the sunlight shine through!

Fast Facts About Sunlight

▸ The Sun is a star. It makes its own light and heat through fusion, a type of nuclear reaction.

▸ The Sun is approximately 93,000,000 miles from Earth.

▸ Sunlight takes approximately 8 minutes to get from the Sun to Earth.

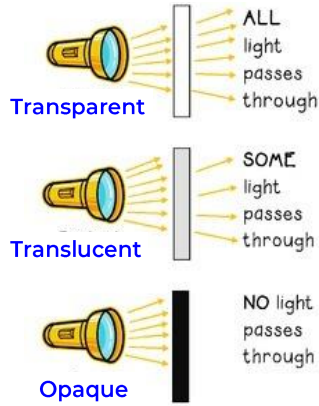


Science Behind Your Suncatcher

▸ The contact paper is **transparent**. That means you can see through it clearly. All the light waves pass through.

▸ The wax paper, tissue paper, and cellophane are **translucent**. That means you can see through them, but not clearly. Some of the light waves pass through.

Transparent, Translucent & Opaque



▸ The craft sticks are **opaque**. That means you can't see through it. None of the light waves pass through.

EXTENSION 1: What else can you find around your house that's transparent, translucent, or opaque?

EXTENSION 2: You can ask at the library for books about the Sun and how light works!